

# This is FET

## Roma Community 2021



**SOLAS**  
learning works



Co-funded by  
the European Union



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland

**Further  
Education  
& Training**

A Report by the  
Data Analytics Unit in SOLAS  
May 2023

### **Authors**

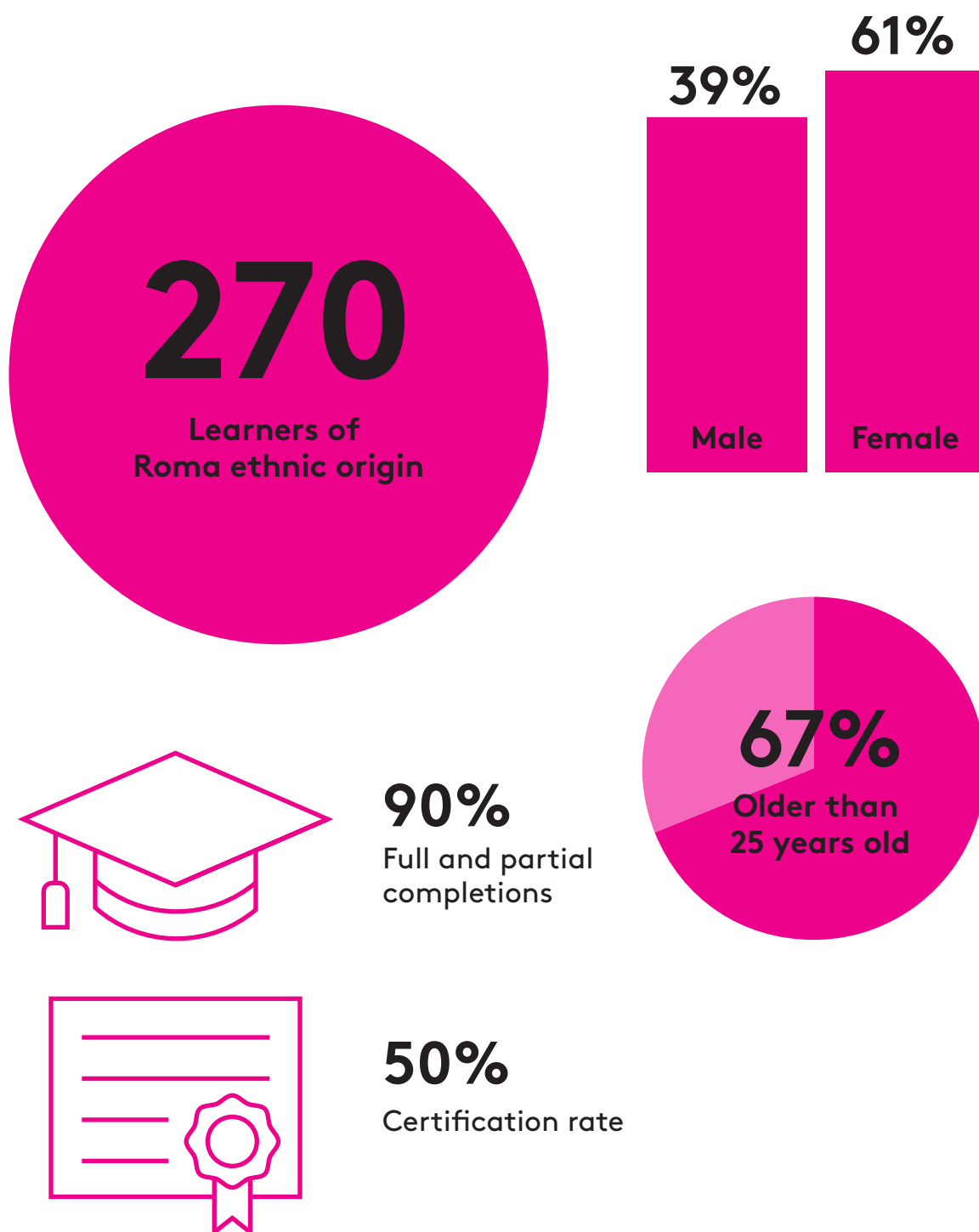
Amelia Dulee-Kinsolving  
Selen Guerin

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All data is sourced from the Programme and Learner Support Systems (PLSS) database. PLSS collects and processes the personal data of the FET learners who are enrolled in SOLAS funded programmes. This report excludes apprenticeship provision.

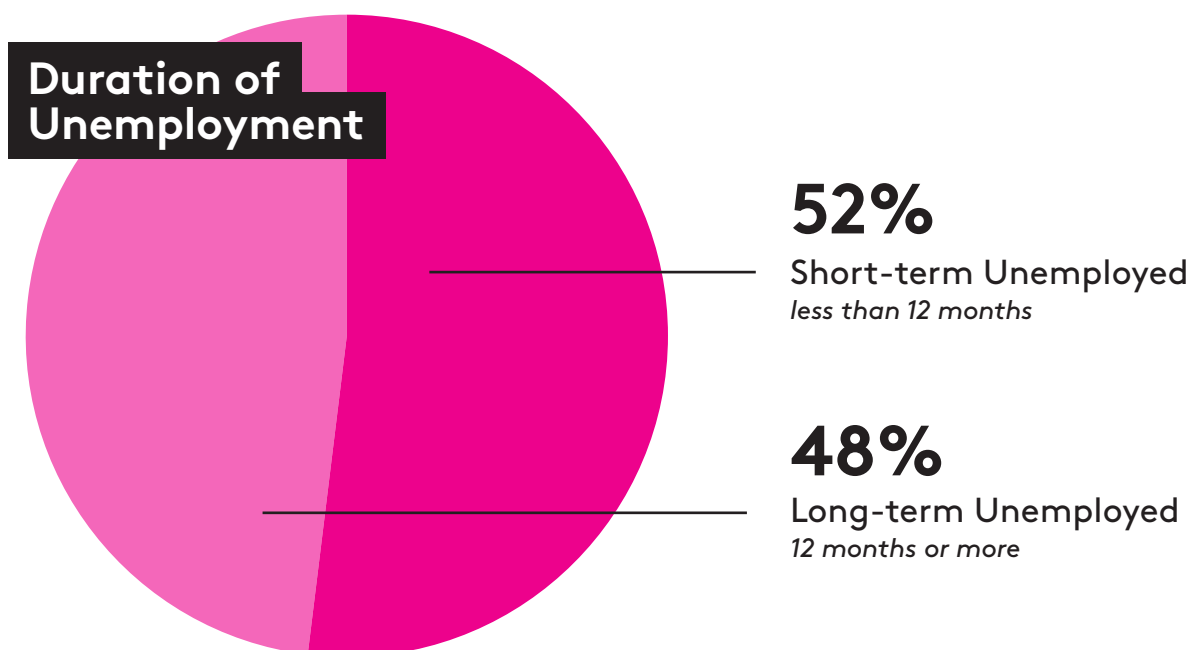
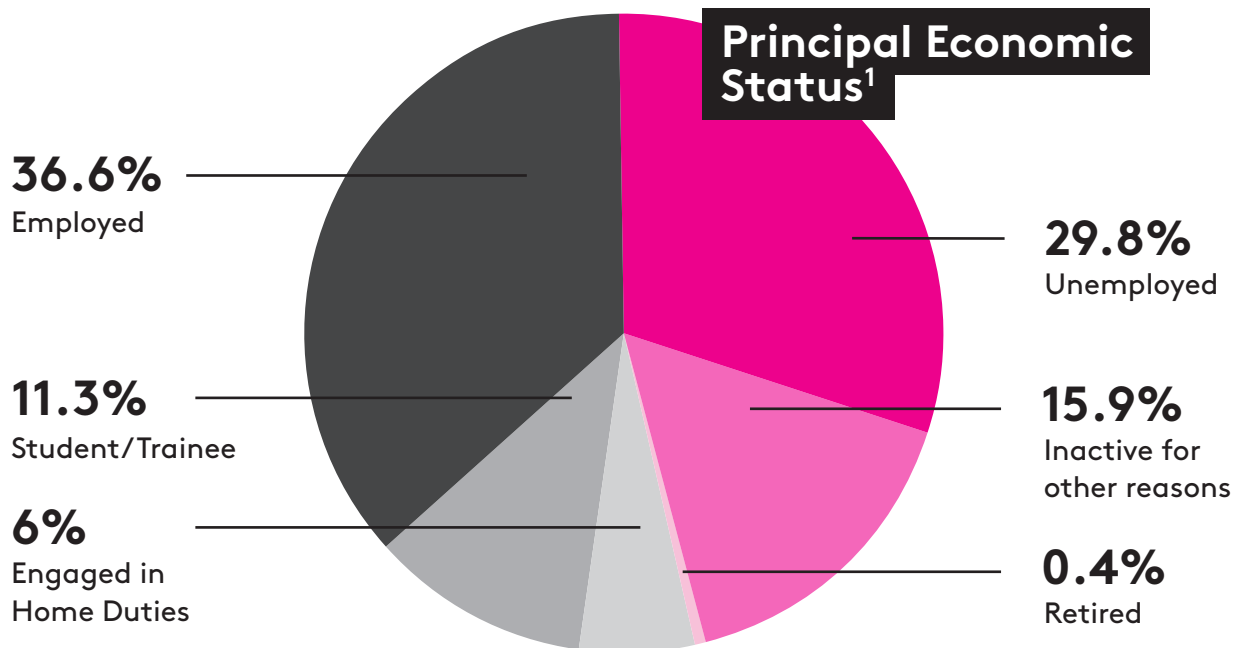
The Data Analytics Unit would like to acknowledge the assistance of the ETB staff involved in submitting data to SOLAS.

# Enrolments



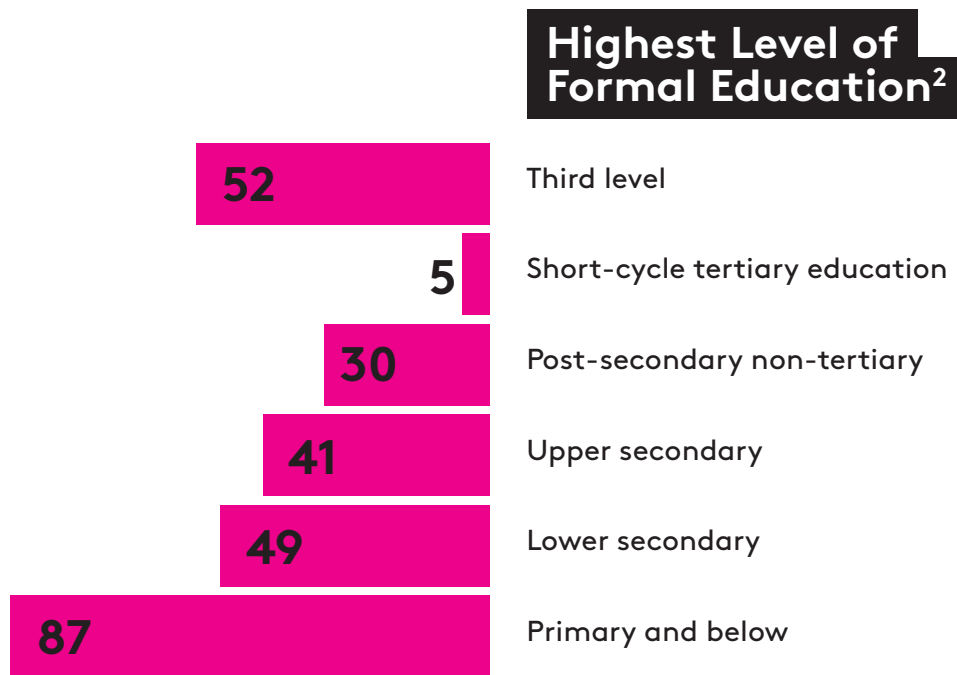
In 2021, the total number of Roma enrolments reported in further education and training was 270. Of these learner enrolments, 39% were men and 61% were women. The majority (67%) of these learners were older than 25 years of age.

Of the 270 Roma enrolments, 90% partially or fully completed a course in 2021. The certification rate for Roma who completed certified courses was 50%.

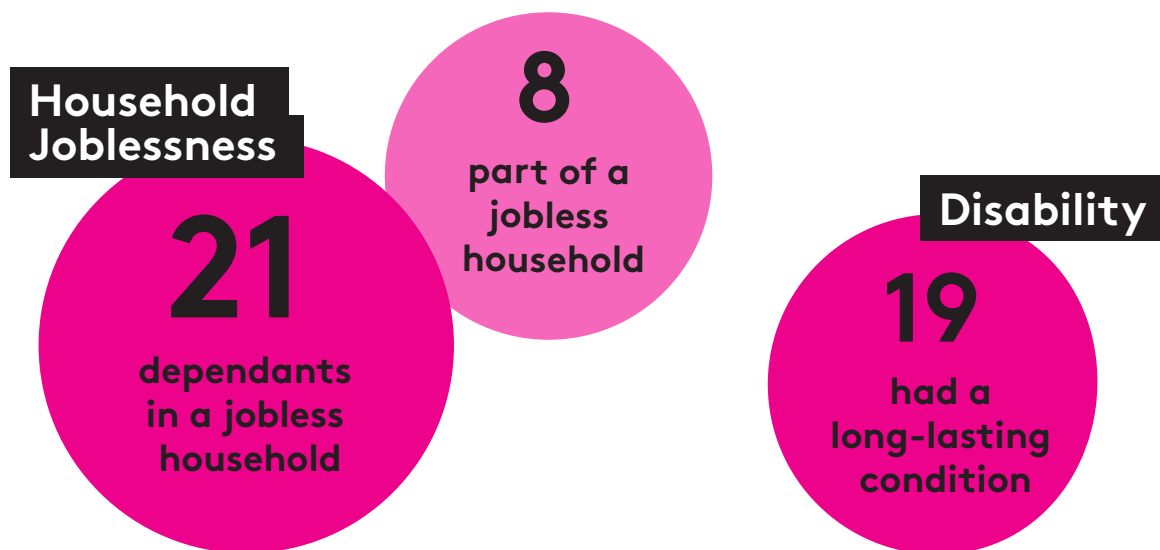


The majority of Roma learners were either unemployed or employed. Of those who were unemployed, 48% were unemployed for 12 months or more.

<sup>1</sup> The Principal Economic Status response rate for Roma enrolments was 98%.



Approximately (51.3%) 136 of Roma reported that they had attained a lower secondary or primary education and below education level prior to joining further education and training.



Of the 270 Roma enrolments, 8 reported that they were part of a jobless household, whereas 21 reported that they were dependants in a jobless household. There were also 19 Roma that reported they had a long-lasting condition.

<sup>2</sup> It should be noted that this figure is an estimate and includes only those cases where previous levels of education were captured.

ETB	Learners
Cavan and Monaghan ETB	13
City of Dublin ETB	22
Cork ETB	27
Donegal ETB	8
Dublin and Dun Laoghaire ETB	29
Galway and Roscommon ETB	6
Kerry ETB	13
Kildare and Wicklow ETB	17
Kilkenny and Carlow ETB	21
Laois and Offaly ETB	14
Longford and Westmeath ETB	22
Louth and Meath ETB	27
Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim ETB	14
Tipperary ETB	9
Waterford and Wexford ETB	28

Of the 270 Romas enrolled in FET courses, Roma enrolments were primarily concentrated in Louth and Meath ETB, Cork ETB, Longford and Westmeath ETB, Dublin and Dun Laoighire ETB, and Waterford and Wexford ETB.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Learners here are unique within ETBs but not necessarily across ETBs.

<sup>4</sup> Any learner count less than 5 is excluded in this table.

# Programme Category<sup>5</sup>

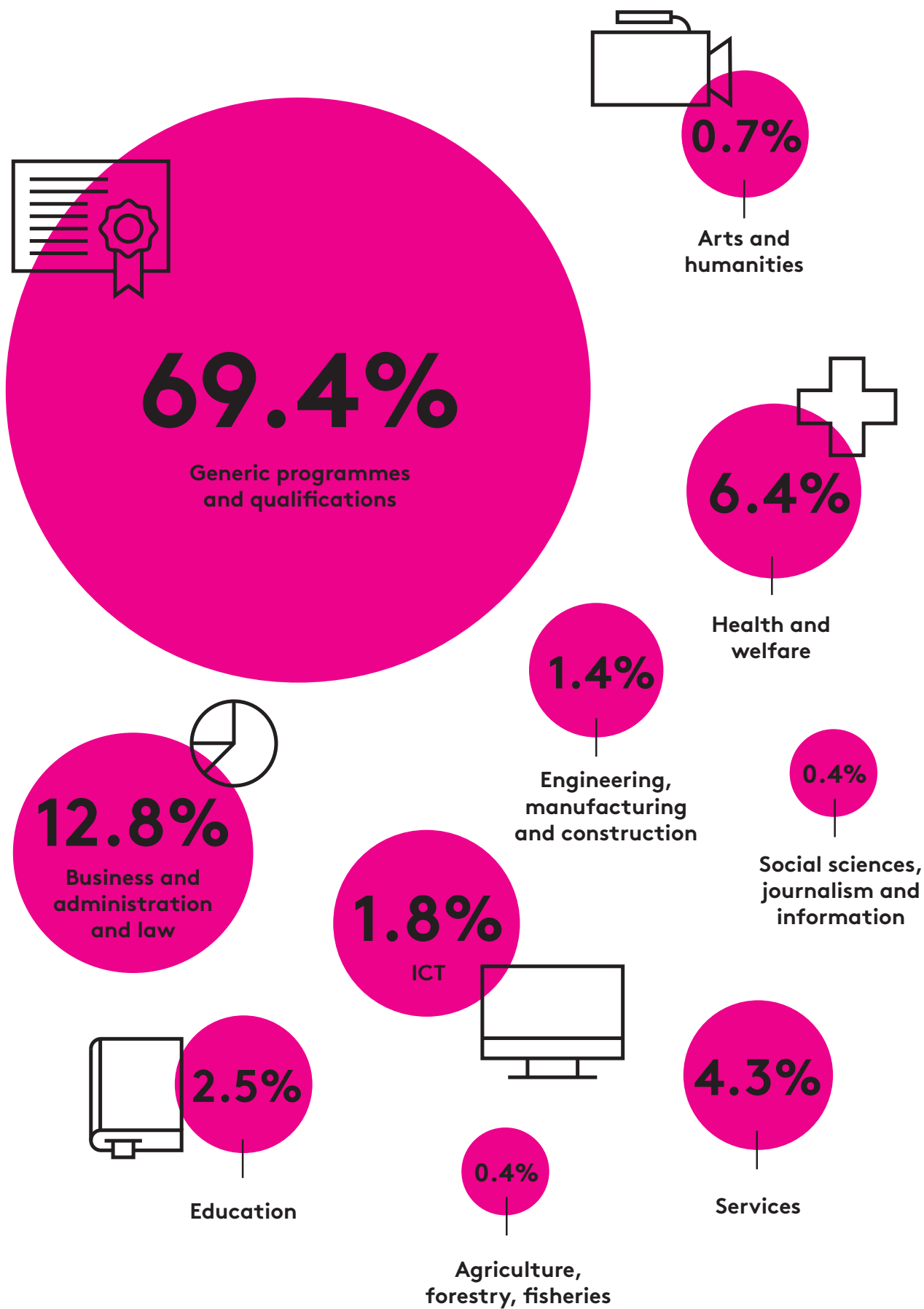
Programme Category	Learners
Community Training Centres	12
Specific Skills Training	8
VTOS Core	6
Youthreach	43
PLC	19
Evening Training	10
BTEI Groups	29
Specialist Training Providers	5
Adult Literacy Groups	23
Community Education	16
Skills to Advance	11
ESOL	94

Among FET programmes, enrolments were primarily concentrated among English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), Adult Literacy, Back to Education Initiative (BTEI), and Youthreach courses. There were 19 additional learners who were also enrolled in the following programme categories during 2021: Other Funding, FET Cooperation Hours, ITABE, Traineeship Training, Justice Workshop, Local Training Initiative, Online eCollege and Skills for Work.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Each learner is counted once within each programme, but is allowed to be counted more than once if they did courses in different programmes.

<sup>6</sup> Any learner count less than 5 is excluded in this table.

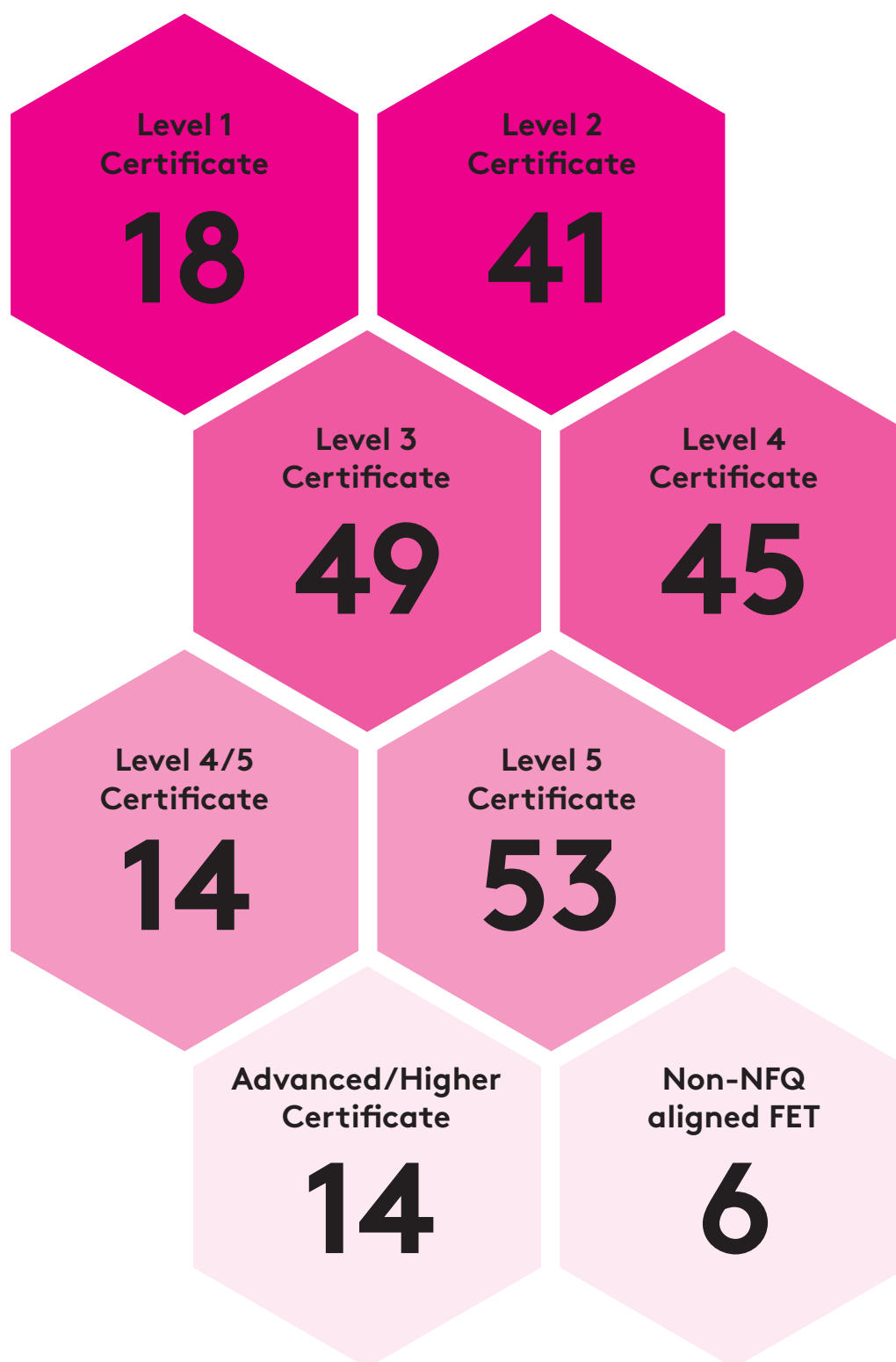
# Field of Study (Broad ISCED)





Field of Study (Broad ISCED)	Examples of courses
Generic programmes and qualifications	Employability Skills
	ESOL English Language
	Health and Wellbeing
	Arts and Crafts
Business and administration and law	Start your own Business
	Office Administration
Health and welfare	Nursing Studies
	Applied Social Studies
Services	Beauty Therapy
	Sports, Recreation and Exercise
Arts and humanities	Art, Craft and Design
	Film and TV Production
Education	Early Childhood Care and Education
	Special Needs Assisting
ICT	Computer Systems and Networks
	Computer Basics
Engineering, manufacturing and construction	Welding
	Engineering Technology
Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary	Horticulture
	Animal Care
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	Applied Science/ Laboratory Techniques
	Pre-University Science
Social sciences, journalism and information	Journalism for the Digital Age
	Cultural and Heritage Studies

# Irish National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ) or Equivalent<sup>7</sup>



The majority of learners with Roma background were enrolled in Level 5 (22%), Level 3 (20.3%) and Level 4 (18.7%) courses in 2021.

<sup>7</sup> This excludes learners enrolled in courses that do not lead to an award through a recognised awarding body.

# Definition of Terms

## Activity

The sum of learners multiplied by the number of courses which they have been enrolled in or completed within a programme or across different programmes, or providers during 2021.

## Certification Rate

The sum of only full and partial learner completions that gained an award through a recognised awarding body in 2021.

## Completions

Total number of learners who have a finish date of a course (regardless of whether the course is certified or not) in 2021. Completions include partial and full completers, but exclude early leavers.

## Enrolments

Enrolments are defined as learners who are on course or have completed a course during 2021.

## Field of Study

This is defined and categorized by the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED). Both broad (2-digit) and detailed (4-digit) fields of study are used for categorising Further Education and Training course fields of study.

## Full Completions

Learners who have completed 90 per cent or more of the course and its requirements in 2021.

## Inactive

This term is used according to the Eurostat and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) definition which defines inactive as individuals who are neither employed nor unemployed and are not working and not available or looking for work. Inactive in this report includes those learners engaged in home duties, retired, student/trainees, and those inactive for other reasons.

## Irish National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ)

This is a framework through which all learning achievements may be measured and related to each other in a coherent way. The many different types and sizes of qualifications included in the NFQ are organised based on their level of knowledge, skill and competence. In some cases, where awards have not been placed on the Irish NFQ, equivalent levels are assigned based on the document 'Qualifications can cross boundaries' and the level assigned to the award on the relevant country's framework (e.g. Cf. Ofqual, Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework, etc.).

**Learner**

A unique individual who has progressed onto a course in the application process. The total number of learners is the sum of all unique individuals in Further Education and Training in 2021.

**Long-lasting Condition**

This includes anyone who has: 1) blindness or a serious vision impairment, 2) deafness or a serious hearing impairment, 3) a difficulty with basic physical activities (e.g. walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting or carrying, etc.), 4) an intellectual disability, 5) a difficulty with learning, remembering or concentrating, 6) a psychological or emotional condition, and/or 7) a difficulty with pain, breathing, any other chronic illness/condition.

**Long-term Unemployed**

This refers to any person who is unemployed for 12 months or more.

**On Course**

This refers to those learners who were still on course as of December 31st, 2021.

**Non-NFQ Aligned courses**

This includes completions with certification not aligned with the NFQ.

**Partial Completions**

Learners who have completed more than 25 per cent but less than 90 per cent of a course and its requirements in 2021.

**Post-secondary Non-tertiary**

This refers to Post Leaving Certificate NFQ Level 4 or 5, Advanced Certificate NFQ Level 6, other non-NFQ aligned FET, Certificate NFQ Level 4, or Certificate NFQ Level 5.

**Short-cycle Tertiary**

This refers to third level non-degree courses and includes higher certificate NFQ level 6 courses and diploma NFQ level 7 courses. These courses are usually of one year in duration and are often vocational in nature.

**Third Level**

This refers to Ordinary Bachelor degree, Honours Bachelor degree, Professional, Post-Graduate, Doctorate or Higher degree courses.



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